

Applicants: John O'Connor, et al.
U.S. Serial No.: 09/630,215
Filed: August 1, 2000
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REMARKS

Claims 58-61 and 63-66 are pending in the subject application. Claims 58-61 have been allowed by the Examiner. Applicants herein cancel claims 63-66 without prejudice. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment, claims 58-61 will be pending.

Statutory Double Patenting Rejection

The Examiner objected to claims 63-66 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75 as allegedly being a substantial duplicate of claims 57-61 of copending U.S. Serial No. 10/335,115. The Examiner also provisionally rejected claims 63-66 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 57-61 of U.S. Serial No. 10/335,115.

In response, and without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's objection and rejection, applicants note that claims 63-66 have been canceled. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection and objection are moot.

Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejection

The Examiner further provisionally rejected claims 63-66 under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly unpatentable over claims 53-56 of U.S. Serial No. 10/335,115.

In response, and without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's rejection, applicants again note that claims 63-66 have been canceled. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection is moot.

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Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner further rejected claims 63, 65 and 66 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly obvious over Cole, et al., in view of Birken, et al. and in further view of Foster, et al.

In response, and without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's rejection, applicants again note that claims 63, 65 and 66 have been canceled. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection is moot.

Summary

In view of the above remarks, applicants maintain that all pending rejections have been obviated. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance be issued for allowed claims 58-61.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorneys invite the Examiner to telephone them at the number provided below.

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No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

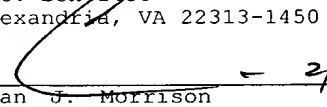
Respectfully submitted,



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